



The *Spirit* of Strawberry Baptist Association

Rev. David Timma- Moderator

Vernon DeLong – Secretary

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On-Mission

Growing up in a Southern Baptist Church, I learned at an early age the value and emphasis of Missions, as a Christian and as a Church. I learned to *Pray, Give* and *Go* on Mission, to be an **On-Mission Christian** for Jesus. As a Christian, and as a Church, we are to live out the Great Commission in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the rest of the world.

Most of us *Pray for Missionaries* every week at Church, especially when we collect the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions during Christmas, and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions at Easter. In September we pray and collect for our Virginia Missionaries and Mission Projects as we observe the Alma Hunt State Mission Offering through the BGAV and the Vision Virginia Offering through the SBCV. Prayer is Awesome! We Must, we Need to Pray, for our Missionaries, but, let's take it a step further.

Giving to Missions says we Love People. Preaching without Love is empty words, it has no power to save; Teaching without Love is just noise, going through the motions; and Singing without Love is performing for someone else's benefit, not God's. Giving, Going and Doing Missions without Love are wasted effort. Doing Anything without Loving People is wasting God's Time, because God Loved them enough to Die for them.

Going on Missions says we Love Souls. Most Christians Love People, but sometimes we only care for their physical needs. Some People are cared for all their life, but still go to Hell, because they are Not Saved. Who cares if a Sinner goes to Hell? God Cares – “*God is Not willing that Any should perish.*” (2 Peter 3:9) *God cared enough to send His Son.* (John 3:16) Jesus Cares – He cared enough to Die on the Cross, to Save us from our Sins. The Holy Spirit Cares – He cares enough to Convict us of Sin, and call Sinners to Repentance. Loving Souls means Doing whatever it takes, to keep them from going to Hell.

Doing Missions says we Love Jesus. “*If you Love Me, keep my commandments.*” (John 14:15) The Great Commandment is “*Love the Lord with All your heart, mind, soul and strength.*” (Matt 22:37-40) The Great Commission is “*Go ye therefore and teach All nations.*” (Matt 28:19-20) Jesus said, “*You shall be My Witnesses.*” (Acts 1:8) Loving Jesus means Doing what He says Do, Sharing the Good News, wherever we go!

This year, Strawberry Association did something we have never done before – we took part in a **Missions Grant** program within the Association. Strawberry Association gave back to our churches \$20,000 to help offset expenses for at least 10 of our church members to go on a Mission Trip. At least 6 SBA Churches went on a Mission Trip, doing Home Missions here in the United States, and Foreign Missions around the world. Several other churches participated in Mission Projects, both locally and internationally. Can we keep it Going? Can we do **More** next year? **YES!** Because we are **On-Mission Christians**, and **On-Mission Churches!**

As we close out the last Quarter of 2024, we have several opportunities to Witness, Minister, and be **On-Mission** to the communities around us. In October, instead of “*Trunk-or-Treat,*” consider a Family-Oriented Fall Festival, and give away the Gospel along with the Goodies. November is a great opportunity to minister to Families with baskets and/or boxes of Food, Fellowship, and genuine Meeting and Caring for their needs. December brings OCC Shoeboxes, Lottie Moon Offering, and Christmas. **WOW!** What Opportunities to Touch Lives, and let God Change Lives. How can we reach Bedford County with the Gospel?

The Mission is Yours, should you Choose to Accept it.

Vernon

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BGAV Annual Meeting

Free Indeed

November 11th - 13th
First Baptist Church
Alexandria, VA

SBCV Annual Homecoming

The Lord is with You

**ANNUAL
HOMECOMING**

Advancing the
Gospel Together

November 10th - 12th
London Bridge Baptist Church
Virginia Beach, VA

Attention - Church Clerks

Don't Forget your ACP'S!

You should have received your paper copy by now. You can fill them out online, www.sbcworkspace.com, by hand and mail them to Lifeway, or drop them off at the SBA Office. ACP's are due by [March 31st](#).

Strawberry Baptist Association

Bedford

- *As we move into God's Beautiful Fall season, we have many events planned for Community Involvement and we hope you will plan to attend, if possible. On Oct 13th, we are having our **2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off**.
- ***Operation Christmas Child** ministry is in full swing at Bedford Baptist. While we encourage everyone to pack at least one box, we are collecting items for our **Shoe Box Packing Party** on Sun, Oct 20th from 4 – 6 pm.
- *Our WMU will host **"Ladies Night Out"** on Tuesday, Oct 15th at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. A meal will be provided. Guest speaker - Judy Bowman from WHEEL POWER Christian Cyclists.
- *For those who enjoy a friendly competition sporting event, we encourage you to sign up for a **Volleyball Tournament** from 4-6 pm on Sat, Oct 19th, on the front lawn of the church. If you're not physically inclined, we're also signing up people for the **"cheering squad"**!
- *Mark your calendars and plan to visit Bedford Baptist's **"Trunk or Treat"** inside event. The last couple of years, we have had to move inside at the last minute, due to not so pleasant weather. This year, we are planning an inside event with lots of goodies and fun activities for the **"little's"** as well as their parents. This is a community wide event on Oct 31st, beginning at 5:30 pm. We invite you join us for fun and Christian Fellowship.
- *We are excitedly anticipating a trip to **"The Ark"** in the Spring of 2025. There are still a lot of moving pieces, but we will need at least 30 people interested and willing to make a deposit to secure transportation and lodging. A planning meeting will be held on Oct 6th following Morning Worship.

Pecks

- *We delivered **Play Pails** to God's Pit Crew, to be handed out to children in Disaster Areas.
- ***AWANA Kickoff** was Sun, Sept 8th, with food, fun & 21 kids. We're expecting Big Things this year.
- ***Choir Practice** started back on Sun, Sept 8th, as we get ready for Homecoming and Christmas.
- ***Homecoming** - Sun, Oct 13th, with Rev. Joe Sherrill, the son of former pastor Bob Sherrill.

Timber Ridge

- ***AWANA Clubbers** just launched a new year (*Number 31*). **God is Good!**
- ***Youth** are beginning a new worship program with Word of Life. Our Youth will also be attending **"Reverb"**, an action packed youth event that includes sports, food, games, prizes, and a dynamic speaker who focuses on youth and their spiritual needs. The Gospel is clearly presented to an arena packed with students, giving them an opportunity to accept Jesus as Savior then followed up with discipleship.
- ***Young Families** recently began a new study entitled, "Faith Foundations." This 10-week study aims to give greater clarity and understanding of the foundations of following Jesus, as well as examining what it truly looks like to know God deeply.
- ***Revival** - Dr. Danny Lovett will be our guest speaker during our **Fall Revival, Oct 20th - 23rd**, 6:30 pm. A nursery will be provided. **Ladies Conference** Sat, Oct 19th, from 9:00 to Noon at the church. The theme is "Standing Strong in Crisis" and will be led by special speaker, Susan Lovett. The cost is free. Child care will be provided. Any ladies that wish to join us can register at www.timberidgebedford.com or 540-586-9267.
- ***Ladies Night Out** with fellowship, dinner and a movie, **"God's Not Dead: In God We Trust."**
- ***Ladies Bible Study** on Wednesday evenings in the book of Numbers. We are reminded that God wants us to be believers that can be counted on. Study facilitator: Lisa Arthur.
- ***Men's Bible Study** on Wednesday evenings through the Parables, delving into a deeper understanding of the heart of Christ. Study facilitator: Pastor Phil.



Bedford Baptist Church Spring 2025 Bus Trip Creation Museum & Ark

Bedford Baptist Church is planning a **Bus Trip to the Ark & Creation Museum in Spring of 2025**. Those interested should contact the Church office and add your name to the list. If possible, try to attend a planning meeting on October 6th, following the morning Worship Service, to plan travel dates and trip details. We need 30 people to make this trip happen. We are opening registration up to all Churches in the Strawberry Baptist Association. A **\$100.00 Deposit** will be due to confirm transportation and lodging.

Strawberry Baptist Association
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October

- 1 Pastor's Conference @ *Trinity*
- 10–12 SBCV Homecoming @ *London Bridge Baptist, Virginia Beach*
- 11–23 BGAV Annual Meeting @ *First Baptist Church, Alexandria*